AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for measuring lipoarabinomannan in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises ~~at least a step of~~ allowing a Limulus reagent to contact with the sample.

2. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises ~~a step of~~ heating the lipoarabinomannan-containing sample before the contact with the Limulus reagent

3. (original): The method according to claim 2, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

4. (currently amended): A method for detecting an acid-fast bacterium, which comprises using the method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1.

5. (original): The method according to claim 4, wherein the acid-fast bacterium is a tubercle bacillus.

6. (original): A kit for measuring lipoarabinomannan, which comprises a Limulus reagent as a component.

7. (original): The kit according to claim 6, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

8. (currently amended): A kit for detecting an acid-fast bacterium, which comprises the kit of claim 6 ~~or 7~~.

9. (original): The kit according to claim 8, wherein the acid-fast bacterium is a tubercle bacillus.

10. (currently amended): A method for removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample with a Limulus reagent, which comprises ~~at least a step of~~ allowing one or more substance(s) selected from the following group to coexist with the sample:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)-β-glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)-β-glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine.

11. (currently amended): A method for measuring an endotoxin using a Limulus reagent in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises ~~at least a step of~~ removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan with a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10.

12. (original): The method according to claim 11, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

13. (currently amended): A method for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises using the method of claim 11 ~~or 12~~.

14. (original): A kit for measuring an endotoxin, which comprises a Limulus reagent and one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as components:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)-β-glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)-β-glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor and a strong alkaline substance.

15. (original): The kit according to claim 14, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

16. (currently amended): A kit for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises the kit of claim 14 ~~or 15~~.

17. (currently amended): A method for measuring a (1→3)-β-glucan using a Limulus reagent in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises ~~at least a step of~~ removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan with a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10.

18. (original): The method according to claim 17, wherein the Limulus reagent is a (1→3)-β-glucan-specific Limulus reagent.

19. (currently amended): A method for detecting mycosis, which comprises using the method of claim 17 ~~or 18~~.

20. (original): A kit for measuring a (1→3)-β-glucan, which comprises a Limulus reagent and one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as components:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin histidine and histamine.

21. (original): The kit according to claim 20, wherein the Limulus reagent is a (1→3)-β-glucan-specific Limulus reagent.

22. (currently amended): A kit for detecting mycosis, which comprises the kit of claim 20 ~~or 21~~.

23. (original): An agent for binding of lipoarabinomannan, which comprises one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as an active ingredient:

an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, (1→3)-β-glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)-β-glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine.